

GARRETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT – March 2013
Month in Review

Department of Economic Development

1. Discussion on the Keyser's Ridge Business Park (KRBP) Investment Agreement with the State Department of Business and Economic Development.
2. Lease Agreement with prospective business at the KRBP. The Department has been in negotiations and disclosure of the name of the business will be made public when the agreement is final between all parties.
3. Discussion on a proactive development of a Comprehensive Energy Policy. The Board will proceed with this proposal and evaluate the employment of a professional firm/consultant for the purpose of guidance and direction. The Board concurred with this proposal and will make this plan a priority.
4. Presentation of a list of preliminary Appalachian Regional Commission projects for consideration. The Department will compile preliminary project descriptions for the Board to review and prioritize at a date to be determined.

Department of Financial Services

1. The Board executed a Resolution setting the date and time of the real property tax sale on May 3, 2013 at 10:00 AM.
2. The Board reviewed a budget estimate for the Emergency Operations Center. A budget for FY 2013 for an appropriation of up to \$144,429 as recommended was approved. The motion also included a clause that staff evaluates all possible grant funding sources and public safety agencies to secure funding for capital and other associated operational startup costs.
3. The Board executed a letter of support to the IRS at the solicitation of Blue Moon Rising relative to their 501 (c)(3) non-profit status.
4. The Board met with staff to discuss the County Identity Theft Prevention Program. The Board approved the program amendments as presented on this date.

Senator Mikulski Visit

The Board reviewed and finalized an agenda of topics to present Senator Barbara Mikulski during her visit to the County on March 27, 2013. These topics will include broadband, Deep Creek 2014, Sequestration, SCIF at GIEC, Hurricane Sandy, and the Dove Center.

Department of Planning & Land Development

1. Development of canopy project between ASCI and Fork Run.
2. Fourmile Ridge Wind Project and GRV Vortac. The Board reviewed concerns with the decommissioning of this ground based approach device. Without such a device, the Airport will be limited to the amount of traffic on marginal weather days with air traffic having to be directed to other regional airports. The Board determined to have correspondence sent to the Public Service Commission to be included in the public record for the Public Hearing on March 19, 2013.
3. DC Watershed Board of Zoning Appeals member vacancy. The Board decided to solicit names of potential members through the media and the County website.
4. The Board met with staff to discuss the GC/Allegany County boundary. A court decision in 2008 established the Chisholm survey line as the official boundary between Allegany and Garrett counties. MD SHA has informed GC and Allegany County that they are revising SHA road inventories with boundary information from GC and Allegany County as well as that of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation being used as a reference. As the boundary has moved westward several roads or sections of roads which had been in GC are now located in Allegany County. SHA has indicated that this action now requires a re-inventory of several roads touching or crossing the revised boundary. On this date the Board determined to notify Allegany County that GC will continue to recognize the Chisholm Line as the official boundary line for all purposes.
5. The Board met with staff to discuss requests for reimbursement under the GC Shoreline Stabilization Policy. The Board agreed that all requests for reimbursements need to follow the exact eligibility prerequisites of the policy.
6. The Board reviewed names of persons who have expressed an interest in serving on the DC Watershed Board of Zoning Appeals. The Board approved the appointment of Robert Hoffmann.

Department of Public Safety & Emergency Management

1. Update to the Board on the pending winter storm. The County is under a Level 3-Monitoring – Winter Storm Warning.
2. The Board approved the following changes to the membership of the Local Emergency Planning Council Membership. Appointments were made by the Board on March 5, 2013.
 - a) GC Memorial Hospital - remove Denise Liston and replace with Dale Hair
 - b) GC Roads Department - remove Theresa Miller and replace with Paul Harvey
 - c) First Energy – Potomac Education – add David Kline as secondary contact
 - d) Garrett College – remove Marcia Knepp and replace with Shelley Menear
 - e) Maryland Emergency Medical Services – add Wayne Tiemersma as secondary contact
 - f) Emergency Services Board – add George Vincent as secondary contact

Purchasing Department

1. Office Furniture. The Board approved an extension from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 to Douron, Inc.
2. Chain and Augers. The Board approved an extension from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 to Chumung Supply Corp.
3. Liquid Asphalt. The Board approved an extension from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 to Hammaker east, LTD.
4. Motor Oil and Grease. The Board approved an extension from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 to PPC Lubricants.
5. Fuel. The Board approved an extension from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 to Oakland Oil Company.

Solid Waste & Recycling

In accordance with MDE regulations, the Board conducted a *Public Hearing* on this date to receive public commentary on certain amendments to the Ten Year Solid Waste Management Plan. These proposed amendments would formally adopt methods for recycling in public schools, recycling disposal for fluorescent light bulbs, and recycling of electronic components. The Board approved the Plan Amendments as presented, and authorized the execution of a Resolution officially noting this action of approval.

Miscellaneous

1. GC Board of Election Supervisors. Provided an update on the November 2012 General Election, which was the week of Hurricane Sandy, voter turnout was 72% compared to 76% for the 2008 Election with 1,500 early voters, legislation proposed for email absentee ballots for all voters, polling location assessment, announcement that the 2014 Primary election is June 24, 2014.
2. GC Chamber of Commerce. Annual Update on the Mountain MD Gateway to the West Heritage Area
3. GC Community Action Committee. Provided an agency overview for 2012 to include characteristics of persons and households served; program enrollment; agency services; agency controlled rental units; agency housing development; community and economic development; agency operated community facilities; income and expense summary; and strategic goals for 2010 to 2015.
4. Dove Center. Provided statistical data for 2012, which are less than 2011 but greater than 2010. Also provided projection on funding for comprehensive domestic violence and sexual assault programs statewide for the next budget year and fund raising plans to supplement the overall organization.
5. The Board decided that Chairman Gatto will replace Commissioner Crawford as Ex-Officio Member of the Board of Education.
6. The Board approved a real property tax credit for Avilton Community Association.
7. The Board reappointed Edgar Harman to the GC Health Planning Council.
8. The Board executed a Proclamation declaring April 2013 as "Autism Awareness Month."
9. The Board conducted a *Public Hearing* on community development and housing needs review plans for an application which the Board proposes to submit to the MD Department of Housing and Community Development. The project being considered for inclusion is the demolition of the former Crellin Community Center. The Board closed the public hearing and executed a Resolution authorizing Chairman Gatto and Mr. Pagenhardt to submit an application for CDBG funds in the amount of \$30,000 for the Crellin Community Center Demolition Project.
10. The Board reviewed the progress and status of the After School Program which was in part funded by CDBG.
11. Commissioner Raley briefed the Board on plans to proceed with operation of the Yough Overlook Visitor's Center. He has been working with SHA and Chamber of Commerce and the project is now projected to open on May 1st. The Chamber indicated they will begin the search for personnel for the facility and the County will develop a memorandum of understanding with the Chamber for staffing.
12. The Board agreed to resubmit Carl Bender as a member and Joseph Winters as alternate member for consideration on the GC Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board. There is a requirement for a list of 3 nominees for each seat therefore the Board will send the names considered when the re-appointment of Member Sue Shockey was undertaken.
13. The Board met with members of the County LEAN Committee who presented a review of the process and final recommendation on County Travel Policy. The Committee reviewed the process for a recommended Travel Policy and will take this matter under advisement.